THE UNION

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Understanding behavior, signals
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PHOTOS BY ELIAS FUNEZ/EFUNEZ@THEUNION.COM

Dr. Denny Nolet checks a dachshund named Rondo for signs of Canine Influenza, a disease on the rise in California. Though no cases have been reported in Nevada County, it is never too late to vaccinate your pet or become familiar with the symptoms.

Caring for canines

Vaccinations available for Fido's flu strains

By Mia Belluomini
Staff Writer

Over the past several months, 72 cases of canine flu have been reported in California, according to Cornell University.

The rapid spread of the contagious virus from dog to dog has caused the temporary closure of boarding facilities in the Bay Area. While there have been no cases of canine influenza in Nevada County to date, it is never too soon to vaccinate your pet and become familiar with the symptoms.

There are two main strains of influenza affecting canines: the older H3N8 virus and the newer H3N2 virus. The older strain originated in horses and, after mutating, infected dogs. The virus is believed to have originated on a greyhound racing track in Florida in 2004, and was soon passed

FLU, A6

Nevada City veterinarian Dr. Denny Nolet checks the canines of Rondo for sings of canine influenza Thursday at his practice on New Mohawk Road.

NEVADA CITY

Back down to one

Nevada City sticks with original plan to wait on more dispensaries

By Matthew Pera
Staff Writer

The contentious debate surrounding how many medical marijuana dispensaries should operate in Nevada City has been settled — for now.

The two candidates that applied but weren't approved for the city's first dispensary license will have to wait. Elevation 2477', selected by the City Council in November from a pool of three applicants, is set to become the city's sole medical cannabis retailer.

Noting all three applicants were qualified for the job, City Council

POT, A6

ELIAS FUNEZ/EFUNEZ@THEUNION.COM

After hearing hours of public testimony, the Nevada City Council on Wednesday voted to stick with its original plan and allow only one medical marijuana dispensary to operate for a year. The council had considered allowing three.

Campaign tool

Signatures-in-lieu could benefit candidates in upcoming election

By Lorraine Jewett
Special to The Union

During the political season, the old adage, "What's in a name?" is replaced by "What's in a signature?"

Often, the answer is financial might and political clout.

The first step in the nearly six-month campaign schedule leading up to the June 5 election is the signature-in-lieu of filing fee period (Dec. 14 to Feb. 7). A candidate for any voter-nominated or nonpartisan office can circulate petitions and solicit signatures from registered voters in each candidate's district. The past few months, it's been common to see candidates and campaign volunteers at public events toting clipboards layered with petitions.

The signatures can pay all or defray some of candidates' filing fees. The cost of filing to run for election varies by the office sought, as does the value of each signature: each signature for a Nevada County nonpartisan office is worth 33-cents; each signature collected in the First Assembly District is worth $1.07.

For example, consider the race for Nevada County Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator, an office for which there are three declared candidates. According to the Nevada County Elections Office, the filing fee to run for Sheriff is $1,823.22. The prorated

SIGNATURES, A6

Lease of Nevada City Elementary OKed

By Liz Kellar
Staff Writer

> "Sierra Academy is really excited to call Nevada City Elementary home."
>
> **— Erica Crane, principal of Sierra Academy of Expeditionary Learning**

Erica Crane paced outside the closed-door meeting of the Nevada City School District board of trustees as the clock ticked past 5:45 p.m.

Crane, the principal of Sierra Academy of Expeditionary Learning, was anxiously waiting for a decision on whether her charter high school would get the OK to lease the former Nevada City Elementary School.

The school district closed the school site in downtown Nevada City in 2010. The property has been leased by Yuba River Charter School, which decided this year not to renew its lease.

Crane had hoped for a definite answer at the board's regular meeting, held Tuesday.

But the trustees deferred making a decision after reviewing the academy's bid, which was for less than its stated minimum monthly lease of $14,575 a month, and opted to continue negotiations. That initial bid from Sierra Academy of Expeditionary Learning also called for a 99-year lease.

To call it cutting it close Thursday night would be to minimize the time crunch factor. Crane was set to take the proposed lease, and a competing lease agreement for a different site, to her own board at 6:30 p.m.

"They know what is going on," Crane said with a nervous laugh. "I think they'll wait for me."

In the end, Crane was all smiles after the board voted

NCE, A8

WEATHER

H: 60°
L: 39°

See full forecast, Page A7

Sunny

OBITUARIES

James (Jim) Bush
Harold Graves
David Hughes
Ron Sibley

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Wife guilty of assisting in murder of 2 deputies

SACRAMENTO — Jurors found a Utah woman guilty of murder Thursday for aiding her husband as he killed two California sheriff's deputies in 2014.

The Sacramento County jury convicted Janelle Monroy Thursday of 10 charges including murder, carjacking and possessing an assault rifle. They rejected her argument that she feared Luis Bracamontes would have killed her if she didn't help him.

She faces a possible life sentence when she is sentenced March 23.

Prosecutors said she willingly moved his assault-style rifle from vehicle to stolen vehicle after he killed Sacramento County Deputy Danny Oliver and before he killed Placer County Detective Michael Davis Jr. hours later.

— Associated Press

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